

Amnesty appeals to U.S. states

LONDON (R) — Amnesty International on Sunday appealed to U.S. state authorities to reprieve 12 prisoners condemned to death and said the number of executions in the United States could double this year. The London-based human rights group said up to 40 inmates could be gassed, electrocuted or poisoned by lethal injection in the United States this year compared with 18 last year, following a U.S. Supreme Court ruling in April that Georgia's death penalty was not unconstitutional. The court ruled the state's law was not biased even though it accepted that blacks convicted of killing whites were more likely to be sentenced to death than whites convicted of killing blacks. Most executions had been stayed pending the outcome of the court ruling on whether the death penalty was racially biased. Most of 12 prisoners scheduled to die in Texas and Louisiana had execution dates set following the ruling. A further dozen, who have exhausted all legal avenues will have their dates set soon, Amnesty said. Amnesty International said in a statement it had appealed to the governors of Louisiana and Texas to commute the penalties and asked them to investigate racial discrimination in their use of the death penalty.



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King sends good wishes to Tunisia

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable of good wishes Sunday to Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba congratulating him on the occasion of his country's Victory Day. In his cable, the King wished President Bourguiba continuing good health and happiness and the Tunisian people further progress and prosperity.

Bridges to close

AMMAN (Petra) — The King Hussein and Prince Mohammad bridges across the Jordan River will be closed from 10 in the morning on Tuesday and re-open on Thursday June 4, according to a statement by the Public Security Department (PSD). The statement said that only 300 travellers would be allowed to cross the King Hussein Bridge on Tuesday and 200 others to cross the Prince Mohammad Bridge and asked travellers in general to refrain from crossing on that day unless they are urgently required to do so. No reason was given for the closure.

Decree approves Uruguay consul

AMMAN (U.T.) — A Royal Decree has been issued approving the appointment of Mr. Barke Mousa Sikku as honorary consul for Uruguay to Jordan. Mr. Sikku is a leading businessman in Jordan.

Bakhtiar's 3 hostages moved to Iran

BEIRUT (UPI) — Shahpour Bakhtiar, Iran's "exiled" former prime minister, said in an interview published Sunday that three foreign hostages kidnapped in Lebanon have been smuggled to Iran. "They are now held in Tehran," Mr. Bakhtiar said in a five-page interview with the independent Beirut weekly magazine *Ourson Al-Arabi*. He cited no source for his information, nor did he identify any of the three hostages by name or nationality. Mr. Bakhtiar made the remark in the course of assessing the U.S. and French governments' handling of the hostage issue.

Iran says Sardash mullah murdered

LONDON (R) — The mullah of the town of Sardash near the Iraqi border in northeast Iran has been murdered by anti-revolutionary elements, Tehran Radio reported Sunday. The broadcast, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), implied that the opposition Mujahideen-e-Khalq organisation based in Baghdad might have been responsible.

SHARAA winds up talks in Belgrade

BELGRADE (R) — Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa and his Yugoslav counterpart Kralj Djordjevic wound up their talks on international issues and bilateral economic ties in Belgrade on Sunday. Their three rounds of talks, since Mr. Sharra arrived Saturday on an official visit, centred on the agenda of a Mediterranean non-aligned ministers conference opening on the Yugoslav island on Tuesday, Tass news agency said.

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Resistance fighters hit Israelis and SLA in major attack

Five militiamen killed and 14 Israeli soldiers wounded in raid on 'security zone'

Combined agency dispatches

SIDON, Lebanon — About 250 resistance fighters on Sunday staged what a Lebanese resistance movement described as its biggest attack on Israel's self-declared "security zone" in South Lebanon.

The fighters destroyed a radar station, set 20 military vehicles on fire and inflicted "large losses" on the Israeli-sponsored South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia and Israeli troops, according to communiques issued by Islamic Resistance, a Lebanese group made up mostly of pro-Iranian Hizbullah (Party of God) militiamen.

In Tel Aviv, the Israeli army said five SLA men and eight commandos were killed in the clash.

Twenty militiamen were wounded in the early morning clash near the village of Jezzine and eight Israeli soldiers were wounded inside the "security zone," an army spokesman said.

The Israeli soldiers were wounded when commandos fired

fighting, the bodies of eight commandos were found. Weapons and "other military equipment" were discovered alongside the bodies, he said.

At 0930 a.m., three Katyusha rockets were fired at the village of Marjayoun which houses the SLA headquarters, the spokesman said. No injuries were reported in the attack, he said.

Israel army radio said Israeli helicopter gunships flew Sunday morning over "large areas" in South Lebanon.

Lebanese police said Israeli helicopters and artillery shelled and strafed nearby villages for 10 hours after the attack, killing a six-month-old baby in Nabatiyeh and wounding 20 civilians.

Islamic resistance said it captured an SLA militiaman and an armoured troop carrier used by Israeli intelligence. Shellfire prevented reporters reaching the village where the prisoner and the troop carrier were said to be held.

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Frontline Lebanese villagers defy Israel, page 2

Moscow may try 'Red Square pilot' but unlikely to punish him

HAMBURG (R) — West German pilot Mathias Rust may be tried for violating Soviet air space but will likely be back home soon with Moscow's thanks for pointing out the gaps in its air defences, a confidante of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev said Sunday.

Valentin Falin, former ambassador to West Germany and now head of the Novosti Press Agency, told the Hamburg Morgenpost in Moscow that Mr. Rust's single-engine Cessna plane was spotted entering Soviet airspace but was taken for a Soviet aircraft.

The teenage German pilot took off from Helsinki and landed his rented plane in Red Square on Thursday evening in a sensational stunt which was promptly followed by his detention.

"For one thing we will thank him for pointing out the gaps. It could be that he will be put on trial, that would be normal in this case. But I reckon the young man will see his parents and friends again soon," Mr. Falin told the newspaper.

The interview was released ahead of publication on Monday.

West German newspapers quoted government sources today as saying diplomats from Bonn's embassy in Moscow would be allowed to visit Mr. Rust on Monday.

Mr. Falin said: "In our eyes the Red Square landing is a pretty hard lesson. I can say that this plane was observed flying over the border and during its flight but it was assumed to be a Soviet aircraft and no one tried to identify it."

In a military shake-up 48 hours after Mr. Rust landed, Mr. Gorbachev put Defence Minister Sergei Sokolov into retirement and fired air defence commander-in-chief Alexander Koldunov for inadmissible laxity in defending Soviet air space.

Mr. Falin said the incident had shown "how incomplete the systems are which have been set up to keep air space under control. Imagine if it had not been a light aircraft but something else."

Iranians seize 7 Kuwaiti boats and restate 'warning' to superpowers

BAHRAYN (Agencies) — Iran said Sunday its navy had seized seven Kuwaiti speed boats in a water channel in the northern tip of the Gulf and that all seamen aboard had confessed to spying for Iraq.

The official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said the boats were seized "recently" in Khor Abdullah, a narrow channel that forms a border between Kuwait and Iraq's southern Fao Peninsula which the Iranians occupied in a February 1986 offensive.

IRNA did not say if all seven boats were captured at the same time, nor disclosed the number of the seamen who allegedly admitted they were gathering information for the Iraqi regime under the cover of fishing.

It dubbed the incident a "new treachery by Kuwait and an open indication to its growing support for the Iraqi regime, even to the extent of spying for them."

There was no immediate comment on the report from Kuwait, which is the closest Gulf state to the Iran-Iraq war.

Iran has been attacking Kuwaiti vessels or ships trading

with that country, in an effort to cut that country's economy.

Iran also has accused Kuwait of inviting the superpowers to directly intervene in the Gulf by seeking their help in protecting its shipping lanes.

Kuwait is registering 11 of its tankers under the American flag. It also has chartered three vessels from the Soviet Union to help ferry its oil through the troubled Gulf.

Vessels flying Soviet and American flags are escorted by warships in the Gulf.

Iran has warned that the increase in superpower intervention in the Gulf could prompt further incidents like the May 17 accidental Iraqi air raid on the American frigate, USS Stark, in which 37 sailors were killed.

In Abu Dhabi the Iranian foreign minister repeated the warning on Sunday and said Iran had the ability to prevent the superpowers intervening in the Gulf region and was prepared to use it.

"We will deal with each incident according to the circumstances and the situation based on this firm stand."

Mr. Velayati, who earlier delivered a message on Gulf developments to the president of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahyan (See page 2), said Iran had the "capabilities and means" to prevent foreign forces interfering in the Gulf.

U.S.-Iran conflict seen looming in Gulf; Senators overfly Hormuz in fact-finding mission, page 2

Reagan under mounting congressional pressure to get allied help in Gulf

WASHINGTON (R) — Congressional pressure was mounting on President Ronald Reagan on Sunday to enlist British, French and other allied support for his policy protecting Kuwaiti tankers and keeping strategic Gulf sea lanes open.

Although Mr. Reagan has pledged that the Gulf would be kept open to shipping, his policy has been under attack by congressional leaders who have charged it is not well planned to protect U.S. interests in event of military assault from Iran, now locked in a 6½ year war with Iraq.

The Persian Gulf will remain open to navigation by the nations of the world," Mr. Reagan said Friday after approving a military plan to escort 11 Kuwaiti tankers flying American flags in several weeks.

"Now, I will not permit the Middle East to become a choke point for freedom or a tinderbox of international conflict," he added.

Others have joined in seeking allied cooperation as well as cooperation from Saudi Arabia to permit U.S. planes to use Saudi landing territory to provide air cover for U.S. ships.

Congressional concern has

been rising since the apparent accidental Iraqi missile attack on the frigate Stark that killed 37 Americans two weeks ago.

The pressure continued on Saturday as well. Sen. James Sasser, a Tennessee Democrat and chairman of a Senate Armed Services Subcommittee, and Sen. Richard Lugar, an Indiana Republican and former Senate Foreign Relations Committee chairman, said allied assurances of help should be received before the Kuwaiti tanker policy is implemented.

Sen. Sam Nunn, a Georgia Democrat who heads the influential Senate Armed Services Committee, charged the administration only now was developing a strategy for the Kuwaiti protection.

He said he would start hearings this week to determine the plans for military engagement if attacked, how many ships and planes will be needed and the degree of allied protection that would be forthcoming.

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(Continued on page 3)

Israeli troops storm Balata and arrest 60 Palestinians

Occupation forces expel Gazan to East Bank and order deportation of Balata resident

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers on Sunday stormed the Balata refugee camp near Nablus in the occupied West Bank and arrested more than 60 people, reports

months to Balata. The camp is close to the Jewish settlement of Elon Moreh, where an Israeli boy was abducted and killed 10 days ago. Settlers, claiming Palestinians were responsible for the killing, have been demanding "revenge" action against Arabs.

Balata had been under curfew for an average of two days per month over the past year.

Observers said the storming of the camp and the subsequent arrests could be aimed at stemming possible Palestinian demonstrations on Friday, the 20th anniversary of the outbreak of the 1967 war when the Israelis occupied the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Meanwhile, the occupation authorities on Sunday expelled to the East Bank a 36-year-old Palestinian accused of heading a guerrilla youth movement in the Gaza Strip. The expulsion of Ahmad Abdul Fatah Nasser was the fourth by Israel this year. The Israeli army, which issued the expulsion order, said Mr. Nasser had decided not to appeal to a military tribunal or Israel's sup-

reme court. Both have rejected previous similar challenges.

The army also ordered the expulsion of a Palestinian whom it accused of heading the guerrilla youth movement in the Balata camp. Reuter identified the man as Abdullah Mohammad Musseini, 28, and AP named the man as Jihad Misayni, 36, and said his brother Riyad was ordered held for six months under "administrative detention," a measure that allows imprisonment without trial. Jihad Misayni was accused of inciting demonstrations against Israeli troops in the West Bank, AP said.

An army announcement said Jihad Misayni was head of Shabiba, a youth movement linked to Fatah. He was sentenced in 1979 to 15 years for allegedly planting a bomb in Nablus and preparing explosive devices for use against Israeli targets.

He was released in May 1985 as part of a prisoner exchange in which three Israeli soldiers were freed in return for 1,150 mostly Palestinian prisoners held by Israel.

Peres hopes to break up coalition as soon as possible

LONDON (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Sunday he wanted to break up the country's "national unity" government and hold an early election as soon as possible.

Interviewed on British commercial television, Mr. Peres said he hoped it would be possible to muster a parliamentary majority in favour of elections within a few months.

His aim was to form a new government ready to negotiate peace with the Arabs in an international Middle East conference.

"I hope that we shall be able to

Labour-Likud feud blocks new ambassador to U.S.

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's ambassador to the United States, Meir Roseone, ended his term Sunday with his country's leaders unable to agree on a successor at a time of strained relations over the Pollard espionage affair.

The deadlock over Israel's most important diplomatic post seems to be intensifying as the growing paralysis of the "national unity" government, torn by feuding between Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud bloc and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres' Labour Party.

Under a 1984 coalition agreement, Mr. Shamir is supposed to approve a candidate nominated by Mr. Peres for the assignment. He has so far vetoed several names, all linked to Labour.

Political commentators have criticised the way in which the key job has been made hostage to other coalition negotiations at a difficult moment in U.S.-Israeli relations following the dispute.

"Israel can ill afford to be without an ambassador in Washington in these trying times, but to serve two rival masters

(Continued on page 3)

Britain's Labour resumes cutting Conservatives' lead

LONDON (Agencies) — Britain's opposition Labour Party is again cutting Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's lead to only four percentage points, the narrowest margin of any sample since the election campaign began.

The three other polls suggested Mrs. Thatcher was still between seven and 12 points ahead, with the opposition making up ground, albeit slowly.

The centrist alliance of Liberals and Social Democrats appeared to be virtually out of the reckoning.

"Kinnock is probably through the worst on defence," wrote Andrew Neil, editor of the pro-Thatcher Sunday Times.

The issue of Northern Ireland entered the election campaign Saturday when the government's Ulster secretary accused Labour of having "two faces" on its approach to the Irish Republican Army (IRA).

U.S. senators tour Omani defence sites, overfly Strait of Hormuz

MUSCAT, Oman (Agencies) — U.S. Senators John Glenn and John Warner overflew the strategic Strait of Hormuz in an Omani Air Force helicopter Sunday, the second day of a visit to the sultanate aimed at discussing ways to safeguard navigation in the troubled Gulf.

U.S. diplomats, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Sen. Glenn, a Democrat from Ohio, and Sen. Warner, a Republican from Virginia, were flown 320 kilometres in a C-130 to the Musandam peninsula, where they boarded the helicopter that overflew Hormuz.

Oman shares control of the strategic Strait of Hormuz with Iran. More than 60 per cent of the world's oil export travel through the channel, the only outlet to the Gulf.

Iran, which has been at war with Iraq since September 1980, has accused Gulf Arab states of aiding Iraq's war effort. It often attacks commercial ships trading with these countries as they sail through Hormuz.

In recent weeks, Iran deployed Chinese-made anti-ship Silkworm

missiles on its side of the water channel.

An aide to Sen. Glenn told the Associated Press the United States viewed the deployment of the Silkworms as a "potential threat" to Gulf shipping.

The senators were assigned by Senate majority leader Robert Byrd to tour the Gulf after the on May 17 Iraqi attack on the USS Stark in which 37 American sailors were killed.

They are seeking broader military cooperation between the United States and Gulf Arab states to safeguard the oil flow from the region and secure free navigation in the Gulf.

Sen. Glenn and Sen. Warner flew in from Bahrain Saturday. Their tour also was expected to include Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq.

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman are members of the 5-year-old Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), an economic and security alliance formed in the wake of the Iran-Iraq war.

Its main target was to defend the Gulf from foreign intervention and prevent the hostilities from spreading beyond the borders of Iran and Iraq.

All six countries are allies of the United States.

The senators met Saturday with the Omani Chief-of-Staff Lt.-Gen. Hamed Ibn Saed Al Aufi and other ranking Defence Ministry officers at the Al Murtada military camp in Muscat.

They also met with Minister of State Yousef Ibn Alawi, who recently visited Tehran and discussed the Gulf situation with Iranian officials.

Sen. Glenn's aide, who refused to be identified, said the senators' discussions were "extremely useful and very frank concerning the situation in the Gulf and the role of Oman in the GCC.

"It was of considerable interest

and very useful to get the opinion of someone who was in Iran... this will go into the overall situation (report)," he said.

"We are soliciting comments on how individual (Gulf) countries see the situation and what can be done if and when the escort (of Kuwaiti ships by U.S. warships) start," he said.

Kuwait is registering 11 of its state-owned tankers under the American flag to guard against Iranian attacks. Vessels flying the American flag are entitled to warship escorts in the Gulf. The plan is expected to be completed within the next few weeks.

Since 1980, the United States has had limited military facilities in Oman.

Oman has a defence agreement with the United States under which U.S. forces may use Oman bases in time of emergency.

President Ronald Reagan's plans to boost U.S. involvement in the region have come under attack by congressmen who fear the United States could get drawn in the Iran-Iraq war, now in its seventh year.

Iran to discuss charges against diplomat with U.K.

LONDON (R) — Iran will this week discuss with Britain charges against a British diplomat abducted for 24 hours in Tehran, Iran's charge d'affaires in London said Sunday.

Speaking on television, Akhundzadeh Basti refused to specify charges against Edward Chaplin, London's second most senior diplomat in Tehran, who Britain says was beaten up and kidnapped by Iranian Revolutionary Guards on Thursday and held overnight.

"Of course there are certain charges against the British diplomat in Tehran and we will discuss the charges with the government here in the next few days," Mr. Basti said in an interview shown on independent television.

Asked whether Mr. Chaplin would face prosecution, he said: "If they are to follow the procedure, naturally he has got to face that."

Britain has called the abduction a horrific incident and has demanded an explanation. But the Foreign Office has denied a newspaper report it is considering cutting diplomatic ties with Tehran.

The latest dispute is the troubled relations between the two countries also involves the case of Ahmad Ghassemi, an Iranian consular official detained by British police on shoplifting charges in Manchester, north-west England.

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Air cover is vital to defend against such weapons, said naval expert William Lind of the Military Reform Institute. But analysts doubt adequate air cover could be provided.

The Sunday Times said an Iranian source had hinted that Tehran might break off diplomatic relations with Britain.

"We are not Saudi Arabia or Syria. We are Iran," the Sunday Times quoted the source as saying.

Commenting on the Sunday Times report, the Foreign Office said: "There has been no hint in our direction, in conversations in either London or Tehran, of any such plans."

British diplomats in Iran have operated under the protection of Sweden's flag since Britain closed its embassy in Tehran in 1980 following the U.S. embassy siege.

The head of British interests section of the Swedish embassy, Christopher MacRae, met Iranian Foreign Ministry officials Saturday and demanded an explanation of Chaplin's kidnapping and an apology.

The Iranian official news agency (IRNA) also reported the meeting but said Mr. MacRae had been summoned by the Tehran Foreign Ministry to give an explanation of the Ghassemi case.

Israeli cabinet decides on judicial probe into Shin Bet torture case

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's cabinet voted on Sunday to hold a judicial inquiry into interrogation methods used by the Shin Bet security service, which has been accused of fabricating evidence and torturing prisoners.

Sixteen cabinet ministers voted to open the inquiry, which would be empowered to subpoena witnesses and documents, Israel Radio reported. Six ministers abstained from the vote.

The cabinet decision followed a string of scandals involving interrogation methods of the nation's internal security service.

In the latest such scandal, the supreme court last week freed a Muslim army officer from prison after finding that Shin Bet agents had forced him to make a false confession to charges of treason

and espionage, then lied in court about the case.

The ruling in the case of Lt. Izat Nafso, 32, a member of the Circassian Muslim minority, came after the officer had already served seven and a half years of an 18-year sentence.

The government has decided that the issue of the interrogation methods of the general security services in the wake of the Nafso case is a subject of crucial public importance at this time and demands an inquiry," said Cabinet Secretary Ehlyakim Rubinstein after the cabinet vote.

"The commission... will make recommendations as it sees fit, including as to the proper methods of interrogation in the future, taking into account the special needs of the fight against

terror," said Rubinstein, reading from a prepared statement.

He said that according to a special law on commissions of inquiry, the Shin Bet probe would be appointed by Supreme Court President Meir Shamgar.

Rubinstein also said the commission's deliberations would be secret.

Tel Aviv lawyer Avigdor Klagsbald said that although a judicial inquiry would be conducted "like a court of law," the government is not obliged to accept its conclusions.

"A commission of inquiry will lead to recommendations for action, but if the government decides what to do," Klagsbald, an expert on commissions of inquiry, told the Associated Press.

Velayati discusses Gulf developments in UAE

ABU DHABI (R) — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati delivered a message Sunday on the latest Gulf developments to the president of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Sheikh Zaid Ibn Sultan Al Nahyan.

Mr. Velayati arrived in the UAE Saturday night at the start of a three-nation Gulf tour as the U.S. administration in Washington pledged to keep open Gulf sealanes and protect Kuwaiti tankers from attack.

Iran has recently increased its strikes against shipping, connected with Kuwait in retaliation for the northern Gulf emirate's support for Iraq in Baghdad's war with Tehran.

Diplomats said Mr. Velayati handed a written message to Sheikh Zaid from Iranian President Ali Khamenei on developments in the region.

They said he was due to go on to Qatar and Bahrain, although a senior Foreign Ministry official travelling with him might visit the latter state in his place.

Before leaving Tehran, Mr. Velayati was reported by the Iranian News Agency IRNA as saying it was necessary to exchange views with neighbouring countries.

The interference of certain foreign powers in the region recently "is in no way in the interests of the regional countries," he added.

U.S.-Iran conflict seen looming in Gulf

By Christopher Hanson
Reuter

confrontation with the Soviet Union, which borders Iran, may result.

Mr. Reagan has vowed the navy will shoot back if U.S. ships are attacked and told reporters the Iranians should "go to bed every night wondering what we might do."

This is almost identical to a comment he made about Libya in 1986 after the United States bombed it.

Iranian weapons include air-launched cruise missiles and the deadly land-based Silkworm anti-ship missile with a range of some 96 kilometres, naval analysts said.

Air cover is vital to defend against such weapons, said naval expert William Lind of the Military Reform Institute. But analysts doubt adequate air cover could be provided.

Truly dominating the air would require basing U.S. jets in Kuwait or Saudi Arabia. Diplomats said it was unlikely either country would allow this for fear of Iranian retaliation.

An alternative is to rely on jets from aircraft carriers.

But naval analysts said carriers could not risk entering the narrow Gulf and would have to operate in the Arabian Sea. That is some 800 to 1,200 kilometres from areas that need protection in the northern Gulf and at the limit of the range of U.S. jets.

It would be difficult to maintain continuous air patrol, even if the carrier Constellation, now on patrol in the area, were joined by others. Ronald O'Rourke, senior naval analyst of the Congressional Research Service, told Reuters.

Without control of the skies, a fleet of some 30 ships with advanced radars and the most sophisticated long-range defensive missiles would be needed, Adm. Carroll said.

"We are taking sides now," Sen. Glenn told reporters before leaving for an inspection trip to the Gulf. "We're coming down on the Iraqi side (and) this is no bluff anymore."

Western diplomats say Washington has a strong stake in keeping Iran from winning the war and spreading its virulently anti-American brand of Islamic fundamentalism through the strategic Middle East.

The industrial world depends for most of its oil on the Arab

states in the Gulf.

Despite America's military might, its ships could be very vulnerable to Iranian attacks in the confined waters of the Gulf, which Adm. Carroll described as "a tough naval theatre, my idea of the worst place in the world to blunder in."

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Extended social security coverage begins today

JORDAN (J.T.) — A Cabinet decision taken last month to expand coverage of the Social Security Corporation (SSC) law to include other groups in society will be announced at a press conference to be held today by SSC Director General Maithi Farhan. Details will give details on the new expanded coverages expected to benefit employees of many state businesses and companies and private individuals. On April 25, the government said that as of June 1, 1987, all companies and private businesses employing five persons or more are to be included in the SSC law. Earlier, only those companies and businesses employing 10 persons or more were able to join the SSC. The Cabinet statement said all

Jordanian nationals working for regional and international diplomatic or military missions in Jordan or those employed by educational institutions and technical centres affiliated with these institutions are to join the SSC. Institutions that employ less than five persons can join the SSC provided that once they join, they cannot withdraw, according to the Cabinet decision. The Cabinet statement said all Jordanians could optionally be covered by the SSC law, providing benefits for old age, death or disability, in accordance with regulations to be issued by the SSC.

At his press conference today, Dr. Farhan is expected to dwell on the subject at length. The SSC law came into force in Jordan in 1980.

Rifai leaves for Greece

JORDAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai today flies to Athens on an official visit to Greece at the invitation of Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou.

Mr. Rifai, who will be accompanied on the three-day visit by an eight-member delegation, is expected to hold talks with the

Greek prime minister on topics of mutual concern to Jordan and Greece.

Mr. Rifai's visit to Greece will be in reply to a visit to Jordan by Mr. Papandreou in November 1984, during which he concluded an agreement on increasing bilateral cooperation.

Amman to take part in Berlin anniversary gala

JORDAN (Petra) — The Greater Amman Municipality will take part in celebrations which will start in East Berlin Monday to mark the city's 750th anniversary.

Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh left Amman for East Berlin Sunday at the head of a delegation to attend the celebrations and to take part in discussions on Berlin's links of cooperation with the other capitals of the world.

Mr. Rawabdeh is accompanied by Mr. Hani Al Haj Hassan who is a member of the municipality's committee and Hussein Hindawi, director of the municipality's public relations department.

During the celebrations, a week-long exhibition will be held featuring the culture and history of Berlin and other world capitals. Amman Municipality displaying photographs depicting a variety of archaeological and tourist sites in the Amman region and other parts of the Kingdom.

The Jordanian pavilion is also presenting a documentary film featuring the historical background of Amman, its development over the years, and its public services. Also on display is a collection of books and pamphlets outlining Jordan's and Amman's history.

Resistance fighters stage attack

(Continued from page 1) A second Israeli intelligence unit was destroyed with five other Israeli vehicles and an Israeli pilot's spotting drone was shot down in Syria.

Dozens of families fled villages near the conflict in cars with their hastily packed belongings, witnesses told Reuters.

The SLA, a 2,000-strong predominantly Christian militia, said it suffered eight killed and 11 wounded in the attack on its positions at Bassia and Mount Safi.

The SLA communiqué broadcast by the militia's radio station also said six Israeli soldiers were wounded, and taken by ambulances for treatment in Israel.

Taking into account only the deaths, admitted by the various sides and the police report on the shelling of Nabatiyeh, the day's violence claimed 12 lives and injured 49 people.

Islamic Resistance said its pre-dawn attack hit Israeli-SLA positions on the edge of the "security zone" near Mount Safi, 20 kilometers southeast of Sidon.

"To the cries of 'Ya Ali,' Islamic Resistance staged the biggest and largest attack of its kind," Islamic Resistance said. Ali is an early Muslim caliph revered by Shiites.

The group draws most of its fighters from Hezbollah. About 300 Iranian Revolutionary Guards work with Hezbollah in South Lebanon.

Islamic Resistance has frequently raided Israeli-SLA positions in the "security zone," a 10-kilometre deep and 120-kilometre long zone which Israel set up in mid-1985.

A Hezbollah communiqué said Sunday's attack was launched by four companies, a total of about 250 men. Residents said the four positions attacked were between 600 and 1,000 metres apart on a rugged ridge.

We vow to our innocent martyrs that the route of Islamic Resistance shall continue from victory to victory until we wipe Israel from existence," the group said.

Reagan under mounting pressure

(Continued from page 1) Armitage said the ship was in Europe and the U.S. navy would not begin escorting the vessels for several weeks.

The New York Times reported Sunday that in light of the attack on the Stark, the Pentagon wants to send larger vessels, including cruisers, to the Gulf, to serve as escorts.

Quoting government officials, the newspaper said the naval commander in the Gulf, who believe smaller vessels are adequate, were likely to be overruled in a list of escort vessels now being compiled.

The newspaper said military officials are predicting the Joint Chiefs of Staff will send the guided missile cruiser Virginia and may also send a more modern cruiser of the Aegis class. It said both ships have more powerful radar and defence systems than frigates such as the Stark.

The plan also is expected to call for stationing an aircraft carrier outside the Gulf at least occasionally, the newspaper said.

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Labour-Likud feud blocks envoy

(Continued from page 1) professor Itamar Rabinovich, seen as politically neutral, withdrew his name from consideration on Friday, apparently disillusioned by the failure to reach a decision.

Aides said Mr. Shamir had proposed keeping Mr. Roseane in his post for several more months until a suitable candidate was found, but Mr. Peres, who has largely bypassed the hawkish envoy, opposed the move and ordered the ambassador home.

Mr. Peres' latest nominee for the position, Tel Aviv University

Road injuries and deaths during 'Eid holiday lowest in 12 years

JORDAN (J.T.) — The police authorities in Jordan have reported a significant drop in road accidents and casualties over the past 'Eid Al Fitr holiday following the holy month of Ramadan in Jordan.

According to figures released, only two people were killed and 55 injured in a total of 29 road accidents in the country over the past five days. Colonel Mohammad Al Fare, deputy director of police in the Amman area, says this was the lowest figure reported during 'Eid Al Fitr in 12 years.

Col. Fare attributed the drop to measures taken by the police departments, mainly in Amman region, in organising the flow of traffic and increasing public awareness and cooperation with the traffic police. These police, he said, worked in shifts day and night in a bid to reduce accidents on the roads.

The Jordan University Hospital treated four people involved in road accidents, he said.

District security centres to begin receiving road accident reports

By Ahmad Kreishan
Al Ra'i Reporter

JORDAN — The Amman police department has decided to entrust the task of investigating traffic accidents to a number of security centres in the capital as of today. This step is being taken to make it easier for members of the public to have their traffic problems speedily solved and to ease the burden from the Central Traffic Department, according to spokesman for the police department.

He said that the following security centres will take charge of the new task: Al Muajirin, Al Hussein, Al Shmeisani, Zahran, Jabal Amman, Luweibdeh, Ashrafieh, and Rashid. These stations, he added, will deal with reports of traffic accidents within their own region. There will be no need for motorists involved in road accidents to call at the Central Traffic Department. Specific instructions have been issued to the new centres to handle problems related to the road accidents, according to the spokesman.

Telephone numbers

He gave the following tele-

phone numbers which he said could be used to reach the stations: Al Muajirin (634361), Al Hussein (649193), Shmeisani (603875), Luweibdeh (651610), Zahran (655986), Jabal Amman (634344), Ashrafieh (787108), and Rashid (678191).

The following telephone numbers of police stations could be used as well: 639149, 637777, 621111, the spokesman said.

According to the spokesman, motorists involved in road accidents at Marka, Hashimi, Taj, Naser and downtown will be referred to the central traffic office at Mahatta for the time being, but in future other centres will be assigned to help carry out the task.

The spokesman said that road accidents occurring in Sabah, Wadi Seer, Baiader, Sweileh, Naour, Jweideh, Qweisneh, Abu Nuseir and Madaha will be dealt with at police stations in each particular area, respectively.

According to the spokesman, motorists involved in road accidents at Marka, Hashimi, Taj, Naser and downtown will be referred to the central traffic office at Mahatta for the time being, but in future other centres will be assigned to help carry out the task.

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Ministry to revise voter lists for parliamentary elections

JORDAN (J.T.) — Plans are going ahead to revise the lists of voters who registered for parliamentary elections during a 14-day period last month.

AMMAN (J.T.) — A spokesman for the criminal court in Amman said that more than 2,500 convicted criminals will be denied the right to vote in the coming election. Lists of the convicted persons who served one or more years in prison for criminal offences between 1976 and 1987 will be given to the Ministry of Interior today, Monday, so that voting lists can be checked, according to the spokesman.

The spokesman said the lists will be those that have been sentenced, but are now fugitives from law.

On May 24, Minister of Interior Rajai Dajani announced that plans were going ahead for revising special voting cards for all eligible voters who registered their names at the 700 registration centres in the Kingdom earlier this month.

The spokesman said the cards would be issued by Civil Registration Department centres around the Kingdom as of July 1, 1987.

The Ministry of Interior also took another step towards preparing for the elections by displaying voter lists outside registration centres to allow citizens to contest any names that do not

comply with the set regulations. The contest period expires on June 6.

A spokesman for the ministry said on Sunday that Mr. Dajani has issued instructions for revising the lists of voters by crossing out the names of the convicted criminals.

In accordance with the election law, also all members of the Armed Forces and Public Security are not eligible for voting in parliamentary election in Jordan.

According to the Ministry of Interior, a total of 912,011 voters registered their names at the registration centres in May by producing their voter lists outside registration centres to allow citizens to contest any names that do not

comply with the set regulations. The contest period expires on June 6.

But, the question of obtaining such cards had been at the centre of public controversy, since it has been charged that the complex procedure would discourage many voters from taking part in the election altogether.

According to Mr. Dajani, all registered voters could obtain special voter cards free of cost provided they submit two photographs each and an application for the cards at the Civil Registration Department.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Approximately 550,000 students of Jordan's private, and public schools today begin taking their final school examinations before the annual three-month summer holiday in the Kingdom.

The examination sessions will last from June 1 until 9 and involve all primary, preparatory and secondary stages with the exception of the third secondary and third preparatory classes which took school exams last month, according to Mr. Ahmad Zawaideh, director of examinations at the Ministry of Education.

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Another Pandora box?

THE ease with which Mathias Rust flew 700 kilometres from Helsinki to the heart of the Soviet Union in a Cessna aircraft two days ago demonstrates that no country, no matter how sophisticated its defences are, is totally impregnable. Last week's missile attack on the U.S. frigate Stark in the Gulf also lends support to the proposition that hi-technology is not a fail-safe assurance against attack from even a Third World country. These events in the last few days against the "integrity" of so-called sophisticated weaponry and hi-technology equipment should, likewise, cast serious doubts on the infallibility of the Star Wars technology which the U.S. is developing right now to serve as an insurance against nuclear weapons.

There is but one lesson to be drawn from the proven imperfection of weapons: Man should aspire to rely on other means to assure his survival. That is why arms control and nuclear disarmament should be accelerated and pursued more earnestly and energetically. And, in view of the potentially grave consequences of the on-going arms race between the superpowers and their surrogate partners, it would be wiser and more practical to avoid any linkage between nuclear disarmament and other issues, important as they may be. It must have dawned on all of us that the survival of the human race should remain the paramount concern for our policy-makers. This is not tantamount to sacrificing liberty, freedom and independence of nations for fear of armed struggle.

Rather it is for the protection of life from irreversible destruction in order to accord man continuing opportunity to enjoy liberty and freedom.

That is also why one could question the legitimacy of injecting the Soviet Union's record on human rights in the negotiations for arms control between the superpowers. No one would wish to belittle the human right issue in international relations, but we think this issue is essentially extraneous to the heart of the matter of arms control. But that was exactly what the U.S. president said last Saturday to the Conference of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War which was holding its seventh congress in Moscow. Disarmament negotiations should be negotiated and concluded on their own merits. If we allow the introduction of other issues to negotiations, then yet another Pandora box would be thrown wide open, with countless concerns pouring out of it, endlessly and aimlessly.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: A reminder of facts

PRINCE Hassan has reiterated Jordan's basic position with regard to the Arab people under Israeli occupation and said that assistance will continue in support of their steadfastness and until total Israeli withdrawal is achieved. Prince Hassan, who was addressing a banquet in his honour in London, made it clear that Jordan's continued help would go hand in hand with the endeavours to achieve an end to Israeli occupation. This assertion reminds the whole world of Jordan's responsibilities for enabling the Palestinian people to regain their rights, and also of the international community's duty to help bring about peace to the Middle East region, and freedom for the Palestinian people still suffering under occupation. The help to the Palestinians and the continued Jordanian endeavours to achieve peace lie at the foundation of Jordan's national policy as Prince Hassan emphasized. His statement came as Jordan continues efforts for convening an international peace conference for the removal of occupation from Arab land, another endeavour undertaken by Jordan to help bring about peace. Prince Hassan also referred to the situation in the Gulf region, urging the international community to help end Iran's aggression, something which will no doubt be conducive to peace.

Al Dustour: East, West and Mideast

A CALL by the seven-nation Warsaw Pact countries for a speedy solution for the Middle East problem represents a new support for the current diplomatic efforts aimed at establishing peace. The Warsaw Pact countries said that a just and comprehensive solution to the problem can come through an international conference to be held under United Nations auspices. This call also reaffirms official policy of the Soviet Union and the Eastern bloc countries vis-a-vis the Arab-Israeli conflict and indicates a continuation of Soviet bloc attitude towards the on-going Gulf war. Apart from the Middle East question, the Warsaw Pact countries called for a quick end to the Gulf conflict and the start of peaceful negotiations. Of course, the pact's final communiqué referred in detail to East-West relations, disarmament and the U.S. "Star Wars" programme, but there was clear stress on the questions of the Gulf war and the Middle East which indicates Soviet concern over these issues, and keenness on resolving them. In the light of such concern and interest, we sincerely hope that the Warsaw Pact nations and Europe in general will exert more efforts towards peace, and we hope that the United States and the NATO nations will follow suit and help find peaceful solutions for the Middle East region's problems.

Sawt Al Shaab: Fishing in muddy waters

AMERICAN intervention in the Gulf came abruptly and without any introduction immediately after Iran paved the way for such intervention following years of futile fighting against Iraq. The attack on the U.S. frigate Stark was taken by the Americans as a pretext for open intervention in the Gulf region and to escalate tension in that turbulent region. The superpowers have failed over the past seven years to bring an end to the conflict, and all of a sudden we see them trying now to achieve their ambitions and carry out their plans in the Gulf. Since the Carter declaration about a rapid deployment force the United States has been trying to increase difficulties and escalate the tension through putting pressure on the countries of the Gulf region with the purpose of achieving American purposes and objectives. Part of the arrangement was the U.S. proposal that vessels belonging to the Gulf countries raise the American flag in order to secure protection. The superpowers are now trying to fish in the muddy waters of the Gulf, parading their warships and flexing their muscles, instead of resorting to international law and the United Nations to find a lasting solution for the problem. Instead of putting out the fire of the Gulf conflict, the superpowers are fueling the conflagration with the purpose of securing strategic interests and goals.

Free navigation and flags of convenience

By Waleed Sadi

THE QUEST for free navigation in international waters in the Arab Gulf is a noble mission as far as it goes. But the manner the U.S. administration is going about, i.e. hoisting U.S. flags on foreign ships, is fraught with serious implications in view of the prospective legal ramifications associated with this novel methodology and the on-going Iran-Iraq conflict.

There are obvious legal flaws in the decision to "lease" U.S. flags to foreign ships for belligerent conveniences. There is a number of international legislations on the subject of ship registrations which aim to curb and control the international tendency and practice to resort to "flags of convenience" for commercial and tax purposes. The rule of the thumb in this context is that there is much abuse of the "flags of convenience" practice already and all efforts must be directed to halt any further encroachment on the legitimate use of national flags for any purpose whatsoever. One could naturally argue more forcefully against the misuse of flags of convenience for non-commercial purposes and objectives especially those intended to facilitate and legalise belligerent pursuits.

In the case at bar where the U.S. administration has decided to swap foreign ships with U.S. flags when navigating the Arab Gulf, the legal situation is further compounded by the constraints posed by state and federal legislations in the U.S. on improper registration of foreign ships for dubious reasons. The spirit and letter of these laws could very well be put in jeopardy if the Reagan administration resorts to improvised legal rationale to justify its precipitous registration of foreign ships in the U.S. state

or federal jurisdictions. The U.S. admiralty jurisprudence would be seriously threatened by any such expeditious efforts which aim to circumvent domestic and international legislations. One would have thought that the Reagan administration would have opted for the easier course of action, i.e., the use of bona fide registered ships, tankers or freighters for the purpose of securing oil imports, and the shipment of material to its friends in the area. Since the U.S. is reputed to be the number one maritime nation in the world it is puzzling why the U.S. opted for questionable methods to arrive at the same result.

There are other constraints on the U.S. decision to use shortcuts in this quest for free navigation and unimpeded and unhampered shipping in the Arab Gulf. The U.S. allied within the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) have already served notice that the Arab Gulf area does not fall within the geopolitical scope of NATO and therefore they cannot lawfully take part in the U.S. initiative in the Gulf. This stand by NATO constitutes a very interesting declaration and embodies many far-reaching implications for the Western alliance. To say the least, such a position by NATO poses a serious setback for U.S. policy-makers in their determination to associate its Western allies in its military initiative in the Gulf.

What is suggested instead is the resort to international efforts under the U.N. Charter to arrive at the same result. The Western reservations about the U.S. initiative, which by the way does not enjoy bipartisan support in the U.S. Congress, is due also in part to the fear that such unilateral actions by the U.S. could further erode the U.N. Charter and the whole U.N. system. While it is

true that the U.N. system is held with contempt and ridicule in the U.S., the other Western countries do not associate themselves fully with this negative U.S. outlook on the international organisation. Even Japan, which is dependent on oil imports from the Gulf region up to 70 per cent of its energy needs, has decided to disassociate itself from the recent U.S. efforts in the Gulf. There are calls everywhere for legitimate and effective international efforts instead of unilateral actions.

Viewed in the strict context of the conflict between Iraq and Iran and guided by the geopolitical conflict between Iran and the Arab states, this whole quest for free navigation in the Gulf assumes an additional dimension which hitherto remained in the background. It must be noted that whereas Iraq is dependent on a network of pipes to export its oil to the world, Iran is first and foremost dependent on "free navigation" in the Arab Gulf to export its oil and finance its war efforts against Iraq. Free navigation in a zone of war could very well mean in the final analysis that Iran becomes the beneficiary of unimpeded and unhampered shipping in the Gulf.

There is no doubt that there is but one way to secure the legitimate objectives of all the parties in the Gulf and it is no other than having the permanent members of the Security Council of the U.N. hold the bull by the horns and put an immediate end to the war between Iran and Iraq. There is no denying that the major powers have the means to stop this senseless war forthwith if they so desired. This is the sensible objective and the sensible method as well. Short-cuts have not worked in the past and they are not likely to succeed in the future.

U.S. report on human rights is a flagrant misrepresentation of facts on the ground in Israel and the occupied territories

By Abdul Jawad Saleh

the PLO, the Israeli government should subject him to the legal process to judge his "crime." But to dissolve the councils and terminate the peoples' mandate is in contravention of the basic principles of the Human Rights Declaration.

As a matter of fact, the mayors were deposed because they rejected outright the establishment of th civil administration, imposed unilaterally by a military order, before the PLO Executive Committee, of which then I had been a member, had taken a negative stand or resolution. It is worth noting that the establishment of the civil administration was imposed when the American, Egyptian and Israeli interlocutors were negotiating Palestinian autonomy. The imposition was an Israeli attempt to implement their version of "autonomy." However, the mayor's rejection was supported unanimously by the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. This national consensus was demonstrated during the outbreak of protest over the implementation of the civil administration, which continued for a few months during which the Israeli military government killed 28 Palestinians in suppressing the demonstrations. Moreover, the rejection of the Israeli imposed civil administration was and still based on the following:

1. The imposition of the civil administration constitutes a unilateral constitutional change of the occupied territories status.
2. This constitutional change of status was verified by the imposition of another military order, the same day the civil administration military order was issued. The other order incorporates the West Bank under the direct control of Israel's central military command. These two annexationist military orders defied all international co-operation pertaining to occupied territories.

3. These changes incorporating the occupied Palestinian territories into "greater Israel" have destroyed the possibility of a just settlement of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. It has undermined the peace process which depends basically on the conception of a historical territorial compromise.

4. The constitutional changes of militarily occupied territories eventually change the future status of the territories and their people. The Palestinians under the new status are considered an ethnic minority, with limited human rights and no political future. However, the Palestinians are aware of the plans of collective expulsion, under favourable circumstances, such as war, as General (Reserve) Abaron Yariv had disclosed.

The U.S. report refers to the Israeli infringements on the Palestinians' right to elect their municipal representatives and the freezing of their democratic institutions since 1980 as "postponement of further elections." Nearly a decade has passed without holding this democratic process, and no hopes lie in the support from its allies.

In the occupied territories the report acknowledges Israeli violations of Palestinian human rights, in many aspects, making their life intolerable. The following violations are cited: administrative detention, deportation, home and town arrest, collective punishment, entering private homes and institutions without prior judicial approval, destruction of homes, interrogations of individuals about their political views, restriction of freedom of speech, censorship of Palestinian newspapers, banning books and periodicals, withholding freedom of peaceful assembly and association, restrictions on labour and professional unions, banning on travel, economic pressure by banning collectively the export of agricultural produce, (the Israelis deprived my family of the right to use or sell my private car for 13 years; it was left to rust in my garage) and restrictions on investments, disproportionate allocations of water for the benefit of Israeli colonists, restrictions on the Palestinian fishing industry, and land confiscation which "significantly affects the lives and economic activities of Palestinians."

Israel's futile attempts to find an "alternate" leadership is synonymous to its obnoxious denial of the existence of a Palestinian people, living on their historical homeland, where they have a right to live, and to determine their inalienable national rights. A striking proof of this Israeli denial is the dismissal of one of its puppets, the head of the Hebron village league, which was formed as an alternative leadership, by a military order, when this puppet attempted to establish a "Palestinian peace party" to negotiate a peaceful settlement with Israel.

The U.S. report enumerates other Israeli violations of the basic principles of human rights, whether in Israel proper or in the occupied territories, which are recognised by the civilised community of nations. The report acknowledges that the "Israeli Arabs, however, are relatively powerless and tend to feel alienated." Israeli Arabs assert (what the human rights division think?) that they are denied equal access to education, housing, and other services and that they are discriminated against in such areas as employment and appointment to government positions. Government grants to Arab local councils represent a smaller percentage of the council budgets than is the case for grants to Jewish municipalities. While Arabs make up about 16 per cent of the population of Israel, less than two per cent of the persons in senior government positions are Arabs, less than three per cent of Israeli judges are Arabs, and no large bank, industrial enterprise, or agricultural undertaking in Israel is headed by an Israeli Arab." (p.1265).

In the occupied territories the report acknowledges Israeli violations of Palestinian human rights, in many aspects, making their life intolerable. The following violations are cited: admini-



Abdul Jawad Saleh

nistrative detention, deportation, home and town arrest, collective punishment, entering private homes and institutions without prior judicial approval, destruction of homes, interrogations of individuals about their political views, restriction of freedom of speech, censorship of Palestinian newspapers, banning books and periodicals, withholding freedom of peaceful assembly and association, restrictions on labour and professional unions, banning on travel, economic pressure by banning collectively the export of agricultural produce, (the Israelis deprived my family of the right to use or sell my private car for 13 years; it was left to rust in my garage) and restrictions on investments, disproportionate allocations of water for the benefit of Israeli colonists, restrictions on the Palestinian fishing industry, and land confiscation which "significantly affects the lives and economic activities of Palestinians."

The U.S. government's report fails again to cover other major violations of Palestinian human rights in the economic field. Israel's systematic policy of pauperisation and dependency under prolonged occupation has proved catastrophic to the Palestinian economy. Prohibition of economic development is pursued impudently through military orders. Unprecedented even in the darkest ages of mankind, the Israeli authorities issued a notorious order, no. 1015, in 1982, prohibiting Palestinians from planting one single fruit bearing tree without prior approval of the military "civil administration" and according to its imposed conditions.

Another grave omission by the U.S. report is its failure to report about the discriminatory policies, in wages and accrued benefits, and eventually exploitation of Palestinian labourers working in Israel. (see Zucker, David (Deddi) team director, Human Rights in the Occupied Territories 1979-1983, International Peace in the Middle East, Tel Aviv, 1983).

The omission is in contravention of the U.S. Generalised System of Preferences Renewal Act of 1984 which requires reporting on worker rights in GSP beneficiary countries and states that internationally recognised worker rights include "(a) the right of association; (b) the right to organise and bargain collectively; (c) a prohibition on the use of any form of forced or compulsory labour; (d) a minimum age for the employment of children; and (e) acceptable conditions of work with respect to minimum wages, hours of work, and occupational safety and health.

As a student of the noble principles of the Human Rights Declaration, I believe that the contents of the U.S. report, regardless of its omissions and misrepresentations, submitted to the 9th Congress in accordance with Section 116(D) and 505(B) of the Foreign Assistance Act, contradicts and refutes this act and the GSP, for the act and the GSP prohibit U.S. economic assistance to any country, the government of which "engages in a consistent pattern of gross violations of internationally recognised human rights..."

The violations of Palestinian Human Rights noted by the U.S. report is in contravention of The Hague regulations of 1907 and the 1949 Fourth Geneva Convention, which Article 6 of the Constitution of the United States considers as part of the law of the U.S.

The State Department's report contradicts itself by noting that Israel "by law and practice" guarantees human rights when the contents of the report enumerate unlimited violations the "Arabs of Israel" are suffering, besides a long list, incomplete as we have shown, of flagrant violations of Palestinian human rights in the occupied territories. I am afraid that this unequivocal contradiction puts the authenticity of the U.S. government's commitment to the principles of human rights under the perspectives of doubt and scrutiny.

As a matter of fact, the Israeli violations noted in the U.S. report, despite many omissions, prohibit the U.S. government, according to the spirit and meaning of Foreign Assistance Act and the Generalised System of Preferences, from offering further military and economic aid to Israel.

It should be noted that an indiscriminatory commitment to the principles of human rights is a role played only by great leaders able to open new visions and avenues in the dark channels of darkness, hatred and prejudice which wrap the poisons of vested interests. Human Rights principles are inviolable; they are bestowed to some (Soviet Jews) and deprived from others (the Palestinians). It is hardly in keeping with the principles of peace and justice that the man who was appointed mayor of Al Bireh is a functional illiterate.

In the interest of peace and justice, therefore, I would submit the following:

1. In accordance with the letter and spirit of the Foreign Assistance Act and the Generalised System of Preferences, the U.S. government should deny any further military and economic aid to Israel.
2. Revive the democratic institutions of the municipal councils by holding elections immediately for those posts.
3. Return all the deported community leaders and mayors.
4. Abolish all racially discriminatory measures which threaten peace and undermine justice.



Juan Ponce Enrile (above), former defence minister and now an opposition leader, displays what he said was a tampered tally sheet of the May 11 election to a rally of supporters in Manila last week. The rally, which was supposed to be an indefinite sit-in until President Corazon Aquino stepped down, fizzled out overnight and was later dispersed by police.

Enrile fails to bring opposition out of Marcos' shadow

By Robert H. Reid
The Associated Press

MANILA. — Despite fraud charges and sharp rhetoric, former Defence Minister Juan Ponce Enrile has failed so far to win broad support or to bring his opposition movement out of the shadow of Ferdinand E. Marcos.

Enrile's protests, charging fraud in the May 11 congressional election, have not drawn increasing numbers of Filipinos. Nor have they attracted significant participation by military personnel for whom Enrile purports to speak.

Instead of rallying support for Enrile's political ambitions, the demonstrations appear simply to have reinvigorated a hard core of Marcos' loyalists who want the former president returned from Hawaii and installed in power.

"He was supposed to lead us to bring 'down Cory,'" said Marcos' loyalist Annie Ferrer, referring to President Corazon Aquino by her nickname. "For Ferrer and other Marcos' loyalists, Enrile's fraud charges seem almost irrelevant to the goal of restoring the former administration."

Ironically, it was Enrile's February 1986 mutiny against Marcos that triggered the mass demonstrations that toppled his 20-year administration "and brought Mrs. Aquino to power."

That mutiny brought hundreds of thousands into the streets before Camp Crame and Camp Aguinaldo, the city's major military garrisons. But Enrile's recent protests have drawn no more than the some 25,000 who turned out for a May 14 rally.

Recent protests have drawn smaller crowds, and many if not most of them appear to be avowed Marcos' loyalists, a development that has clearly embarrassed some of Enrile's aides.

During a rally last Sunday, which drew some 15,000 people, protesters carried a few blue-and-

white Enrile banners. Speakers referred to the mercurial former defence minister as "our leader" and echoed his charges that Aquino's followers had rigged the election.

But when one speaker asked the crowd who they wanted to replace Aquino, the protesters shouted "Marcos."

Leaflets distributed through the crowd spoke of Marcos as the legitimate Philippine president, robbed of his rightful position by a conspiracy involving Aquino and the U.S. administration of President Ronald Reagan.

The fear of tarnishing the centre-right opposition with the stain of Marcos led Enrile's Grand Alliance for Democracy to keep several loyalists off its senate ticket in March. That in turn prompted the pro-Marcos New Society Movement to field its own slate of nominees and split the conservative opposition.

"In their trip to fantasy land, Enrile and his band have come to the full circle of reunification with the Marcos' loyalists," wrote commentator Amando Doronila.

Enrile's rallies have attracted attention not because of numbers of participants but because of the possibility that he might convince important segments of the military that the election had indeed been rigged.

After some 17 years as defence minister, Enrile still wields considerable influence within the military, much of which remains disenchanted with the Aquino administration, because of her peace overtures to "Communist" rebels.

Chief of staff Fidel V. Ramos, who joined Enrile in his 1986 mutiny, has ordered troops to remain neutral and not to join the protests. Ramos warned that some opposition groups were recruiting active duty and retired soldiers for new moves against the government.

So far, there is no sign that Ramos' order has been disobeyed.

by a significant number of active duty military personnel. The Philippine Constabulary, which is a branch of the armed forces, showed little hesitation Monday in following orders to clear demonstrators from the gates of Camp Crame with tear gas and water cannon.

The Aquino government appears confident it can ride out the protests unless support for Enrile grows within the ranks.

"They don't have the staying power, and it's not a matter of presidential concern," said presidential executive secretary Joker Arroyo. "They won't succeed."

Some former Enrile supporters in the ranks have told reporters privately they will not follow their former leader this time. The officers, speaking on condition they not be named, said they believe Enrile let them down last November when at the last moment the refused to join them in a planned coup.

Aquino fired Enrile in the wake of the abortive attempt.

Philippine commentators believe Enrile's protests also have failed largely because his alliance has been unable to provide convincing evidence of nationally orchestrated fraud.

The alliance has provided evidence of election commission incompetence — as have some administration candidates — and indications of apparent cheating in local congressional contests, which Aquino has acknowledged.

"But given Aquino's popularity, and the 'stain' of past association with Marcos, that marks many alliance figures, many commentators believe the public will not believe fraud charges without near-irrefutable evidence."

"Unless the proofs are more solid, it will be very hard for the Grand Alliance for Democracy to convince the people that the polls were in fact rigged in favour of (the administration)," wrote commentator Art Borjal.

Mexico's illegals scorn the 'cactus curtain'

U.S. commentators call them "the brown tide." But Mexican migrants see only the money and jobs awaiting them across the U.S. border. David Gardner reports on Washington's latest attempt to control entry of foreign migrants into the U.S.

MEXICO CITY — As the sticky afternoon wore into a fresh-breezed evening, Tijuana's Libertad colony, set up on the very edge of the Californian frontier by Mexicans deported from the U.S. during the 1930s depression, bustled into life.

Below it Emiliano Zapata Canyon, the most used transit route for illegal migrant labour crossing Mexico's 3,200-kilometre border with the U.S. started filling up.

In a no man's land which is strictly speaking U.S. territory, the El Ilegal restaurant — chicken and spring onions displayed on a dustbin lid and a picnic cooler full of beer under a plastic canopy lean-to — was doing brisk business. More ancillary services, among them a stall offering shoes for the trudge across the California border to San Ysidro and San Diego, sprang up nearby.

This was the week Washington activated its major new legislative attempt to control the entry of foreign workers — the Simpson-Rodino law, so called after its Congressional progenitors. But there were few signs it was having much effect on migration patterns from Mexico, its main target.

Near El Ilegal, a tight knot of nine young peasants from the central State of Morelos were waiting for sunset to start out for Fresno.

Roberto Luna Cortes, who appeared as a natural spokesman, was making his sixth trip to the orange, cherry, tomato and strawberry harvests. In three months' work he reckons to save \$2,000, which "I could maybe save in five years working in Mexico."

The group's employer, Luna said, was meeting them on the other side.

Further down the dusty canyon, with a U.S. border patrol helicopter (known to illegals as

hill, Sergio Ramirez Alcanta maintained a solitary vigil. Aged 31, from President Miguel de la Madrid's home state of Colima, he had been deported two days earlier and was on his way back to Los Angeles (border patrol permitting), to collect \$650 owing to him from two jobs, in a garment factory and a restaurant.

The Simpson-Rodino legislation views all these migrants, who traditionally fill unskilled jobs Americans do not want, as a culturally threatening, amorphous horde. Students of this unique border where developed and developing worlds sit cheek by jowl — the so-called Tortilla or Cactus Curtain — point out that whereas 20 years ago 85 per cent of migrants were peasants going to and from fields, two thirds of illegals now come from cities and find urban, mostly service, and hence far more visible jobs in the U.S.

Contrary to popular belief, he says, the Mexican recession is holding people in.

The Northern Border College estimates a 10 per cent fall off in crossings (as opposed to people, who may make multiple crossings) over the last three years.

The U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, by contrast, reports a record 1.8 million deportations in fiscal 1986, up from one million in 1984 and 1.3 million in 1985. But at the Tijuana-San Diego crossing the border patrol says (and Mexican immigration officials broadly confirm) the number of deportations dropped by half last month against April 1986, from 71,908 to 34,962. In addition, the radical new feature in Simpson-Rodino of sanctions against employers hiring illegals from June 1 is almost toothless. Employers are liable only if they knowingly hire indocumentados. In essence, the prospective employer is only obliged to demand papers that look authentic. One of the main net effects of the law will thus be the major boost it looks set to give the counterfeiting trade — which may prove a disincentive since it will raise the costs of illegal migration beyond the reach of many Mexicans — Financial Times news feature.

every major Mexican border city, concurs, pouring scorn on the catastrophist scenario of mass deportations coming out of Mexico City and elsewhere. The mayor of Tijuana (estimated population 1.5 million), for instance, recently said his administration stood ready to receive one million returnees. Bustamante's staff calculates the total number of Mexican illegals at not much over one million.

Bustamante concedes what many illegals themselves remark, that the new law is having a temporary, dissuasive effect, but insists that the main brake has been the nearly 15-fold rise in the peso cost of emigration since Mexico's financial crisis began in 1982.

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Randa Habib's

Lively summer evenings and late-night shopping

LATE lively evenings when one could go shopping late at night are a very pleasant prospect but they must not be limited to the fringes of the Ramadan period only. Why not make it a regular feature of summer in Jordan?

Of course, the Amman Municipality did try the formula for some time with souks open until late in the evening in cordoned-off streets where merchants could display their wares and shoppers could pick their choice.

The idea was excellent, since people could shop freely without being bothered by cars and enjoy the coolness of the evening. The idea of open souks should be revived and extended to several areas of our city; near public gardens or in streets that can be blocked to traffic without posing major problems.

Also, why not have regular shops open in the evenings and late into the night? A shift system could be applied, under which shopping areas remain open some days late in the evening and close, say, from two to six p.m. Shopowners can work out the system themselves to their own convenience and to the best of their business.

I think that people will enjoy more shopping in the evenings as summer shopping can be very uncomfortable in hot days... also because it is unusual...

Furthermore, people who have to remain in their offices until six or seven in the evening will have the chance to shop.

And finally, everybody will find it more convenient to shop in the evening where parking facilities are more easily available than in the day.

Italian sex queen seeks parliament seat

By Alan Baldwin
Reuter

ROME — An aspiring parliamentary candidate is campaigning for Italy's June general election with the unlikely formula of removing all her clothes, barring her bosom or offering voters a bit-part in her next film.

"Down with nuclear energy, up with sexual energy," is one of her favourite campaigning slogans.

Ivana Staller, better known to thousands of Italians as the country's leading hardcore sex queen, is standing for election as an official candidate of the small Radical Party, a maverick group with 11 representatives in the outgoing parliament.

Notorious throughout Italy under her nickname "Ciccolina," roughly translatable as "little fleshy one," the 37-year-old live sex show performer has attracted the kind of media interest conventional politicians can only dream of.

He referred to reports of fat profits from some of the arms supplied to the contras, mentioning \$3 hand grenades that he said were sold for \$9.

One document introduced at the hearing listed airfoil pilots, who Rodriguez said were paid between \$3,000 and \$4,000 a month, as getting as much as \$450 a day, apparently meeting a big profit for a Secord-linked company.

All said they accepted without question that North, a key Washington contact, was acting with full legal authority.

The marine lieutenant-colonel, who often had generals jumping to his orders, was fired from his White House post last November when it was revealed that some of the profits from the secret Iran arms sales had been siphoned off for the contras.

North is not expected to testify for several weeks.

Dutton, hired to manage the airlift by retired air force Major-General Richard Secord, said North assured him they were "working for the president of the United States."

Among those testifying were:

— Retired Air Force Colonel Robert Dutton, who used his 26 years of military experience, most of it spent in clandestine "special operations," to whip the airlift

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Brazil's Senna wins Monaco Grand Prix

MONTE CARLO (Agencies) — Ayrton Senna of Brazil in a Lotus won the Monaco Grand Prix motor race Sunday.

For Senna, it was his first win at Monaco and the fifth in his 50th Grand Prix.

Mansell's Brazilian teammate Nelson Piquet was second after a controlled drive, finishing 33.212 seconds behind Senna.

Italian Michele Alboreto was third in a Ferrari with team mate Gerhard Berger of Austria fourth. Britain's Jonathan Palmer in a Tyrrell collected his first points of the season in fifth place ahead of Ivan Capelli of Italy in a march.

World champion Alain Prost of France was fourth in his McLaren when he retired with engine problems two laps from the finish.

Senna's victory boosted him to second place in the drivers' championship with 15 points, three

behind Prost.

Senna took full advantage of the early retirement of British rival Nigel Mansell to race to a comfortable win.

Senna, took the lead on the 29th lap when Mansell, driving a Williams, dropped out with a broken turbo. Senna's winning time was one hour 57 minutes 54.085 seconds.

Mansell had resisted Senna's challenge from the front of the grid and built up a lead of 11 seconds when he slowed abruptly before pulling in to the pits.

Senna, guided his bright yellow Lotus-Honda to an easy triumph after Mansell's problems. Mansell had led from the start with Senna, in the front row, immediately falling in behind. Mansell

appeared to be on his way to the victory and was building his advantage to over 10 seconds. Suddenly Mansell's Williams-Honda slowed and he had to drive into the pits. He quickly got out of his car, knowing the race was over for him.

"I think Mansell was pushing too hard at the beginning," Senna said. "Maybe he could have kept that pace but he didn't."

Senna took the lead in the 31st lap and had a 17-second lead over Piquet in his Williams-Honda. He gradually built it up to over 40 seconds in the final laps.

"I was trying to keep a good pace. In the last 15 laps I just pushed a little bit and when I saw everything was okay, I slowed a little," the 27-year-old Senna told the AP.

Senna moves into second place in the drivers' standings now with 15 points for the season after a second in San Marino. Prost remains in the lead with 18 points.

Finnish Alen takes early lead in Acropolis Rally with Lancia

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Finland's Markku Alen in a Lancia 4wd took an early lead Sunday in the 1,913-kilometre (1,195 miles) Acropolis Rally, winning the first special stage over dirt roads in southern Attica.

Alen racked up 3 minutes 40 second in penalty points over the 5.8-kilometre (3.6 miles) course near the village of Anavyssos in the first of 36 special stages that will effectively decide the contest, according to rally officials.

Alen's Lancia team-mate Juha Kankkunen, last year's winner who is also from Finland, placed second in 3:43.

Sweden's Kenneth Ericsson (Volkswagen Golf GTI) came third in 3:44, followed by Finland's Hannu Mikkola (Audi 200 Quattro), Italy's Miki Biasion (Lancia Delta 4wd) and Argentine's Jorge Recalde (Audi Coupe Quattro), all on 3:45.

A total of 94 starters sped away from the ancient Acropolis hill in Central Athens Sunday morning. They were expected to regroup overnight for Monday's 363-kilometre (226 miles) run through central Greece, including six special stages.

Kankkunen, currently ahead in the world rally championship standings, is favoured for a second Acropolis title, but may be strongly challenged by Mikko Alen.

Mikkola, 45, a former world champion, is contesting a record 10th world-class rally in the four-day Acropolis competition, an event he has never won. Alen has finished second and third in the Acropolis Rally on five occasions.

West Germany's Walter Roehrl, in an Audi Quattro 200, is another favoured contestant for the third year in a row. Mechelen, who had been level with Anderlecht with 55 points from 33 games, 12 points ahead of the next team, lost their chance of the title when they were beaten 3-1 by Club Bruges. Anderlecht, Belgium's richest and most prestigious team, secured their 20th league title with an emphatic win EDIN-Kruiev and Scifo put them two up in the first seven minutes.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Anderlecht retains Belgian title

BRUSSELS (R) — Enzo Scifo, who will play for Internazionale Milan next season, was among the scorers as Anderlecht has overtaken struggling Berchem 5-0 to win the Belgian League title for the third year in a row. Mechelen, who had been level with Anderlecht with 55 points from 33 games, 12 points ahead of the next team, lost their chance of the title when they were beaten 3-1 by Club Bruges. Anderlecht, Belgium's richest and most prestigious team, secured their 20th league title with an emphatic win EDIN-Kruiev and Scifo put them two up in the first seven minutes.

Australian wins New York Marathon

NEW YORK (R) — Australia's Lisa Martin has easily won the women's 10k race of New York in 32 minutes 49 seconds, her third win at the distance this year. Martin, 27, the Commonwealth games marathon champion, beat out a field of 8,225 in 32 degree (C) temperatures. American Lynn Nelson, 25, was 19 seconds behind to finish second in her first running of this 16th annual event. Nelson stayed close to Martin until the halfway mark when the Australian broke away for good. Portugal's Aurora Cunha, who finished third here last year, finished third again in 33:11; the same time as fourth place Nancy Tinari of Canada. Pre-race favourite Ingrid Kristiansen of Norway, the world record holder at 5,000 metres, 10,000 metres and in the marathon, finished fifth in 33:23. Martin, who broke the world record for 10 miles (16km) in Washington last month, had won previously at the 10k distance this year in Boston and Mobile, Alabama.

1984 Olympic gold medallist upset

SAN JOSE, California (R) — Toni Campbell has upset fellow-American Roger Kingdom, the 1984 Olympic gold medallist in the 110-metre high hurdles, at the Bruce Jenner track and field classic. Campbell surged twice, the last time over the ninth hurdle, to win with a time of 13.34 seconds. Cleatus Clark finished second in 13.42 and Kingdom was third in 13.44. Three American women ran the fastest times this season in their events. Mary Kusley won the 3,000 metres in 8:49.49. Judy Brown-King claimed the 400 metre-intermediate hurdles in 54.85 and Delisa Walton-Floyd won the 800 metre in 1:59.80.

American breaks water ski jump record

HOUSTON (AP) — American Deena Brush set a new world's record of 151 feet (46 metres) in the long distance jump competition during a tournament at the Terra Mare waterski facility on Saturday. Brush, 27, jumped behind a Yamah-powered Mastercraft, breaking the old record by one foot (1.3m) during the professional waterski tour. "I've been working all year for the record and today's jump is a dream come true," Brush said. She also is the co-world record holder in the woman's slalom.

U.S. soccer team defeats Canadians

FENTON, Missouri (AP) — Midfielder Jim Gabarra beat goalkeeper Steve Habermann from the top of the box, advancing the United States to second-round Olympic qualifying with a 3-0 victory Saturday over Canada. Gabarra's goal with 17:20 remaining in the second half enabled the United States to win the two-game series by 3-2 in total goals. Canada won the first game 2-0 on May 23 at St. John, New Brunswick. The United States, while moving to a round-robin of six teams consisting of Mexico and four other entrants to be determined, outshot Canada 11-4, drawing its first two goals from Paul Krumpe.

Sanchez scores hat-trick as Real advances

MADRID (R) — A first-half hat-trick by Mexican world cup striker Hugo Sanchez helped Real Madrid to a 4-0 victory over Sporting Gijon Saturday night and extended Real's Spanish League lead over chief rivals Barcelona to four points. Barcelona has the chance to cut Real's advantage in half when they meet Mallorca away in the championship playoffs on Sunday night. Sanchez, who took his tally for the season to 33, stunned sporting by scoring only 25 seconds into the game after running onto a pass from midfield stalwart Rafael Gordillo. His second, a header, followed a few minutes later. The Mexican rounded off his hat-trick 10 minutes before the interval when a volley by fellow striker Emilio Butragueno struck the post and rebounded straight to him. Midfielder Rafael Martin Vazquez completed the rout 15 minutes into the second half when he netted from close range a cross by Michel. The defeat leaves Sporting languishing at the foot of the top playoff group.

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Evert marches into French Open final

PARIS (AP) — Defending champion Chris Evert, playing on her favourite court, moved into the quarterfinals of the French Open Sunday with a 6-4, 6-1 victory over Katerina Maleeva.

Evert, bidding to win this Grand Slam tournament for the eighth time and third year in a row, did not let a steady drizzle in the middle of the match disturb her concentration as she overpowered the 12th seeded Bulgarian on court number 1.

Evert's next opponent will be either number 14 Rafaella Reggi of Italy or number 5 Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia, who were meeting later Sunday.

Also advancing to the women's quarterfinals was number 8 Claudia Kohde-Kilsch, while un-

Olympic organisers to release tickets

CALGARY, Alberta (AP) — Nearly 39,000 people put on a waiting list after ordering prime tickets for the 1988 Winter Olympics will get some or all of the tickets they wanted, an organizing committee official said.

Debra Henry, the committee's special assignments manager, has said that Olympic organizers will release more than 118,000 tickets to 38,839 people on a public waiting list, starting Monday. The seats became available after insider ticket orders were reduced and Olympic venues expanded.

Committee ticketing officials

swept the waiting list 10 times,

matching up unfilled orders to

previously sold-out attractions

from a pool of 164,000 tickets

freed to cope with the unexpected

demand for the most popular

events.

It was just the awesome display of destruction unbeaten Tyson needed following his tiresome points victory over compatriot James "Bonecrusher" Smith which earned him the WBA crown last March.

Ferocious hooks and scything

uppercuts had Thomas under

pressure from the opening bell.

Then, with the challenger reeling

around the ring incapable of de-

fending himself midway through

the sixth round, Tyson went for

the kill like a frenzied shark

scuttling blood.

He unleashed a blistering salvo

of 18 head and body shots which finally put the WBC's top contender on the floor for the first time in his nine-year, 32-fight career.

Dazed and bewildered, Thomas was clearly unable to return to his feet. But before referee Carlos Padilla could count him out, Thomas' trainer Angelo Dundee intervened and the fight was officially stopped two minutes into the round.

After the fifth round of his double heavyweight title defense Tyson kept telling his trainer, Kevin Rooney, "One more round. One more round."

In the sixth round, Pinklon Thomas got the message, going down before a barrage of Tyson punches that ended the fight with a minute left in the round.

"I knew he was getting tired," the 20-year-old Tyson said. "I went strong to the body and head. I knew he was hurt. I saw his condition, I just put everything together."

He certainly did as he retained the WBC and WBA titles and remained unbeaten.

A right uppercut turned Thomas' legs to rubber, then a left hook sent the 29-year-old reeling. Tyson was all over him like a jungle cat, raining lefts and rights. Thomas finally fell flat on his back after a blasting left hook.

In the rest period between the fifth and sixth round, Dundee signalled that the attached thumb on Thomas' left glove had come loose. The glove was replaced, making the minute-rest period a total of 2:38.

The rest did not help Thomas get through the sixth round.

About midway through the sixth, while the two men were fighting in close, Tyson cut loose with a tremendous right uppercut. A moment later, he landed a crushing left and Thomas reeled backward.

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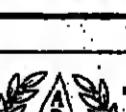
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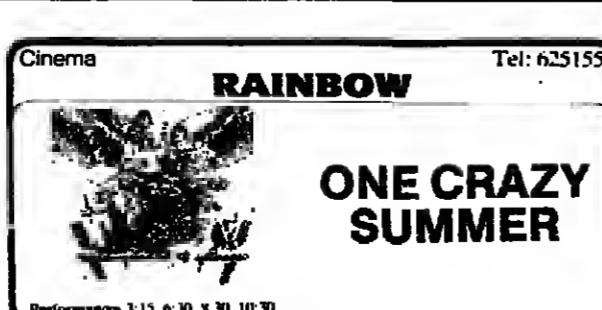
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Weekly Financial Report

By Fouad Batshon

AMMAN — Last week the U.S. dollar opened higher and moved up due to the huge short covering from major European and American banks around the world before the Venice meeting of the Group of Five.

The dollar traded in a wide range of 0.331 - 0.339 fils against the Jordanian dinar. Charts still indicate that the dollar could move lower but not before the Venice meeting.

The expected dollar range for this week is 0.328 - 0.336 fils.

The pound sterling lost ground and moved lower due to the strong U.S. dollar. Sterling lost five per cent of its value against the dollar due to heavy speculation selling.

The pound traded between 0.5425 - 0.5575 fils.

The D.M./S.F. moved lower due to the strong dollar. The D.M. traded between 0.1825 - 0.1880 fils and the S.F. between 0.2175 - 0.2225 fils.

The Lebanese lira (L.L.) moved lower against the dollar because of the uncertain political situation in Lebanon. It

traded between (375-363) L.L./JD. The Syrian lira traded between (95-85) S.L./JD and the Kuwaiti dinar traded between JD 1.220 to JD 1.225.

The Egyptian pound traded between 0.165 - 0.170 fils and the Iraqi dinar between 26.0 - 25.5 fils.

Metals traded lower due to the stronger dollar. Gold dropped from a high of \$475 an ounce to a low of \$445 an ounce. Silver dropped from a high of \$9.50 an ounce to \$7.20 an ounce.

Charts indicate that gold is consolidating around the levels of (\$450 - \$460) an ounce for the time being before pushing to a high of \$500 an ounce. Silver could push to a high of \$10 an ounce at the same period.

Gold prices in Amman based on the daily bulletin presented by the Jordan Jewellery Store are as follows:

Gold per gramme 21 carats JD 4.150 - JD 4.050.

Gold per gramme 18 carats JD 4.000 - JD 3.900.

Regulations carries heavy cost for international capital markets

LONDON — In an age often described as one of deregulation, the international capital markets are facing new rules on all sides.

Intense competition in an over-crowded securities industry has already shaved profit margins for Euromarkets firms. Now regulating costs further threatens profitability. This problem was at the front of delegates' minds in Oslo recently for the annual meeting of the Association of International Bond Dealers (AIBD).

The advent of rules for the unregulated Eurobond market is no surprise. Indeed the association, seeing a need for higher standards and preferring that they should be set from within the market, has long been struggling to transform itself from an informal club into a centralised body with some of the rule-making and supervisory functions of a stock exchange.

Under rules adopted at the beginning of the year, the association is collecting electronically the closing prices of over 4,000 bonds daily from its members. The discreet and sensitive market has, however, rebelled against a more extensive automated system on which traders would constantly display prices at which they were committed to deal.

Meanwhile the U.K. through which perhaps 70 per cent of the Eurobond market is channelled, has adopted investor protection legislation with far-reaching implications for Euromarkets firms. Their London operations will soon have to meet tough new tests of their financial resources and conduct of business.

Senior practitioners have been closely involved in helping to shape the self-policing structure being introduced under Britain's Financial Services Act. Given the massive expansion of the markets, most have come to accept the need for rules.

But the association's members, especially on the continent, object to the export of U.K. regulation and particularly to the role that the association itself will play in the new U.K. regulatory system. Of 861 member firms, fewer

than a quarter are based in London.

The new requirements are defended by the association which wants improved transparency and liquidity for the Eurobond market but is anxious not to be seen to be submitting the multifunctional body to U.K. regulation.

Mr. Arthur Schmiegetow, chairman, has told members: "Much of what we expect will be asked from AIBD — mainly in the field of monitoring the market — will be very similar or closely related to the developments that the board had in mind for the market in any event."

The non-U.K. houses have won a small victory: The Zurich-based association will not come under direct U.K. regulation as a recognised investment exchange. Instead, it is expected to be a designated exchange — like foreign stock exchanges — and will, therefore, not be obliged to have its rule book approved by the U.K. authorities.

But it will still have to satisfy the U.K. about price and trade recording, and the handling of customer complaints. And firms with London offices must be authorised to trade by the securities association, a new self-regulatory organisation.

Even with this concession, the U.K. system clearly implies many new costs for firms with London offices: Meeting capital adequacy requirements, funding the regulators, using extra time and personnel in order to observe lengthy codes of conduct, employing compliance officers and buying new systems for self-supervision.

Yet despite the long preparation period, the practical effects on the Euromarkets of the new U.K. rules are only now coming home to many firms. However, much remains to be settled, including the precise amounts of capital which must be kept by securities firms operating in the U.K.

At the same time, new threats are emerging. Though the U.K. emphasis has been on investor protection, officials in Britain, the U.S. and elsewhere are also

worried about the risks of an accident, potentially endangering the world financial system, caused by rapid and huge flows of capital between increasingly global securities firms.

U.K. and U.S. regulators have launched a series of joint initiatives: A pact on exchange of information, which bore fruit in exposure of the Guinness scandal; proposals for common risk-based capital adequacy rules for banks; and plans for common risk writings for swaps and related instruments.

New issue activity will be hindered by the swap rules and by tough guidelines issued by the Bank of England on capital adequacy requirements for lead underwriters of securities. These guidelines are now expected to be applied to securities firms as well.

Also affecting new issue activity is the increasing threat to the Eurobond market's role as an offshore market with its limited disclosure requirements that help wealthy continental private investors quietly to evade tax by investing in bearer securities.

A draft directive from the European Community (EC) would require publication of prospectuses in every member country where securities might be sold. The initial filing with a "competent authority" would have to take place before any securities were sold at all. The market is lobbying strongly against the directive.

Since lead managers are unlikely to want to keep an entire issue on their books from the time they buy a deal until they put together a prospectus, the directive would mean big changes in issuing methods.

Issues would have to be managed from outside the EC, for example from Switzerland, or EC countries might have to develop a U.S.-style self registration system. The latter would be more costly and less flexible than current rapid distribution methods and would reduce the competitiveness of the Euromarkets as against rival funding sources, bankers argue — Financial Times news feature.

Analysts expect instability if OPEC raises oil output

NEW YORK (R) — Plans by OPEC ministers at their Vienna meeting in late June to press for previously-agreed output increases while keeping prices tied to an \$18 a barrel benchmark could mean falling spot oil prices later this year, oil industry analysts say.

Recent statements from several OPEC countries, including the group's largest producer, Saudi Arabia, indicate the \$18 a barrel benchmark agreed at OPEC's meeting last December will be left unchanged.

And analysts stress that OPEC's tendency in the past to routinely produce more than the mandated quota can only forewarn weaker prices.

"They (OPEC) say their quota is 15.8 million barrels per day in the second quarter, but that really means they are producing about 16.6 million b/d when you count Iraqi production and the (Kuwaiti) neutral zone," said Mr. Albert Anton, oil analyst with Carl H. Pforzheimer and Co Inc.

"If they follow the December agreement to increase quotas ... it will hike output to 17 to 17.5 million b/d and markets cannot tolerate that," he said.

Analysts said if OPEC has given up on an official price increase and wishes to prevent further erosion in crude prices, then it must turn its attention to curbing production.

"There is a clear majority within OPEC which does not want the prices raised for the rest of the year," said Dean Witter Reynolds Inc oil analyst, Mr. George Friesen.

At the head of the coalition supporting stable prices sits Saudi Arabia, whose King Fahd said

earlier this month he wanted prices stable for at least two years. Analysts said the Saudi position is not likely to change or be trimmed.

Mr. Sanford Margoshes, an oil industry analyst with Shearson Lehman Brothers Inc. in New York, said he expected OPEC to push production toward 17.5 million b/d in the third quarter, but without necessarily eroding spot prices because demand may improve to take up the slack.

But some analysts disagreed, including Mr. Friesen, who said output at this level would depress world spot prices.

A major oil company economist, speaking on condition of anonymity said: "OPEC appears to be in favour of raising output. But any attempt to sell more oil on the market in the absence of real demand will only drive down prices. Maybe this is another meeting they should avoid."

Indeed, oil officials and industry analysts agree that OPEC would be better advised to meet and simply reaffirm the present 15.8 million b/d ceiling and the \$18 price, leaving contentious issues such as prices and quotas alone.

OPEC's agreement to raise the fourth quarter ceiling to 18.3 million b/d really means output around 19 to 19.5 million or higher... (and that is) ... at least two million b/d too high," Mr. Anton said.

U.S. intensifies pressure on Bonn

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States has given a cautious welcome to Japanese promises to stimulate its economy soon, but served notice it will press West Germany in Venice to follow suit, top U.S. officials say.

Statements by leading U.S. officials strongly suggest that Washington may repeat a strategy it used in the past to isolate Bonn and force a change of heart at the forthcoming summit of leading industrial democracies.

When it reached a currency stabilisation pact with Tokyo in October, Washington successfully pressured Bonn to join an exchange rate accord last February.

"There really isn't very much more you can do with Japan, except wait for implementation," said one official who asked not to be identified, "but there will be consultations behind the scenes with Germany."

One U.S. official said Washington hoped to win agreement from West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl to act soon and recent statements by U.S. officials were deliberately orchestrated to bring attention to the German position.

U.S. officials are also likely to point to figures showing a declining trend in the U.S. budget deficit, which they agreed to reduce if Bonn and Tokyo led an economic upturn.

They will also give assurances of a future accord with the U.S. Congress on further cuts, to show they are doing their part for the world economy, but may well be greeted with scepticism.

The Japanese package may bolster the economy but will have less impact on the Tokyo's record trade surplus, analysts say.

Greeting Japan's plans for roughly \$42 billion of stimulus, trade representative, Mr. Clayton Yeutter, said, "Prime Minister Nakasone can take the package to Venice with pride."

Through a spokesman, Treasury Secretary James Baker said while he had not had time to analyse the package he was pleased by its size and the inclusion of tax cuts.

"Of course, implementation is key, but this is clearly forward movement toward fulfillment by Japan of its commitments," Mr. Baker said.

A senior Reagan administration official said Washington was "very, very resistant to any idea of Japan-bashing" at the June 8-10 meeting of leaders of the United States, Japan, West Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Canada.

Japan is one of the most important countries in the world... increasing its share," this official said.

In contrast, German officials said recently they were against further expansion, even though

the economy has shown signs of seriously slowing down.

Treasury Assistant Secretary David Mulford said there was concern not just in Washington but in Europe too that German growth has flagged. "We and others are concerned about the continued signs of weakness in the German economy," he said.

Other U.S. officials said France, whose economy is intimately linked with that of West Germany, was also worried that the German growth might slip below two per cent.

At a recent ministerial meeting of the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development, a 24-nation forum for coordinating the policies of industrial countries, Bonn agreed it would review its economic policies to "should there be a serious risk to the sustained expansion of domestic demand."

The commitment was made by Mr. Martin Bangemann, economics minister, and a member of the junior coalition party in the government, the Free Democrats. He said there would be a policy review next month if growth was less than two per cent.

But his assurance was immediately shot down by Financier Gerhard Stoltenberg, member of the senior coalition party, the Christian Democrats, who ruled out advancing tax cuts planned for early 1988.

THE BETTER HALF, By Harris



"If a pipe makes you look distinguished, he figures a big pipe makes you look VERY distinguished."

THE Daily Crossword by Avery P. Bromfield



Civilian death toll hits 37 as Colombo tightens grip on Jaffna

COLOMBO (R) — Soldiers have found 17 bodies at a Hindu temple in Sri Lanka's northern Jaffna peninsula, raising the official civilian death toll in the anti-guerrilla offensive to 37.

The government, which has denied charges by India and Tamil rebel groups that hundreds of Tamil civilians have been killed, said it was unclear how the 17 died.

A statement said the victims, all Tamils, were found at the village of Vathiri in the Thikam area Saturday when soldiers overran rebel bunkers and mortar positions near the temple.

The government said troops still had several kilometres to go before taking Vadamarachchi, the north-east corner of the Jaffna peninsula which is the main objective.

Troop movements on the sixth day of the offensive were ham-

pered by many booby-traps and mines, a communiqué said.

Last week, before foreign diplomats and journalists were flown to the region, the government said the army had established dominance over the region.

Army officials at the Jaffna air base told the journalists Saturday that Thikam was the furthest point troops had advanced across Vadamarachchi.

They are trying to seize the region from guerrillas of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, who are seeking a Tamil homeland in the north and east of Sri Lanka.

Sunday's government statement about the civilians said the

Tigers had stopped people in Vathiri from going to a designated safety area and "forcibly retained certain civilians in the Kovil (temple) closest to them."

"When the security forces finally overcame the opposition ... on speaking to the people in the Kovil the security forces found that there were 17 civilians dead," the statement said.

The security forces were unable to confirm whether it was due to terrorist mortar fire or security forces fire."

A Hindu temple at Thikam was one of 18 safety areas named by the military when the offensive began. A government spokesman said the dead were found at a different temple.

Journalists flown over the area by the military Sunday saw a huge column of black smoke over Thikam. They were told the army had blown up a guerrilla arms factory.

The government's total is around 200 deaths — about 140 civilians have died, the Tigers have said from their headquarters in the south Indian city of Madras that more than 500 civilians have been killed.

Foreign Minister Shahul Hameed Saturday denied Indian charges that hundreds of civilians had died in "carpet bombing."

Foreign journalists and diplomats flown over the war zone saw no evidence of heavy bombing.

U.S. jets intercept four Soviet bombers

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — U.S. Air Force and navy fighters intercepted four Soviet bombers operating in two widely separated areas off Alaska's coast, the military said.

The navy F-14s met two TU-95H bombers at 2015 GMT Friday about 560 kilometres south west of Adak in the Aleutian Islands, said Lt.-Col. Ted Tilma of the Alaskan Air Command at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage Saturday.

The F-14s scrambled from the naval air station at Adak to meet the approaching Soviet aircraft, Col. Tilma said.

While the navy jets were

accompanying the Soviet flight over the North Pacific, two air force F-15s intercepted two more of the big bombers, known as Bears, about 160 kilometres north of Narter Island in extreme north eastern Alaska.

The Soviet aircraft remained over international waters and at no time penetrated U.S. airspace, Col. Tilma said. However, he said it was the first time U.S. fighters have intercepted Soviet aircraft in the Aleutians and in the polar region at the same time.

Friday's actions brought to 12 the number of intercepts this year, Col. Tilma said.

COLUMNS 7&8

Friend seeks \$25,000 for Rice's picture

NEW YORK (AP) — Donna Rice's friend Lynn Armandt asked for \$25,000 from the National Enquirer for a photograph of Rice sitting in Gary Hart's lap, according to a published report. The New York Times, citing an unnamed person with knowledge of the negotiations, said in Sunday's editions that Armandt also said she would sell her exclusive story of the overnight trip to Bimini for \$30,000. The photograph, published on the cover of the tabloid, showed Rice in Hart's lap, each with an arm around the other. The Enquirer said it was taken during a trip to Bimini by Hart, Rice, Armandt and William Broadhurst, a lawyer and friend of Hart's. Amy Karan, a lawyer representing Armandt, has denied that her client gave the photos and story to the tabloid. Hart dropped out of race for the Democratic presidential nomination amid reports about his relationship with Rice, a model and sometime actress. The Times said Jain Calder, editor and president of the Enquirer, declined to confirm the information saying he was promised not to disclose the source or price of the photo. Demand was high for the photo, according to Michel G. Bernard, president of Gamma Liaison, which was retained by the Enquirer to market secondary rights to the photo and another picture of the four on a Bimini bandstand. Bernard told the Times that Paris Match, You magazine in England and Gente in Italy have acquired rights to the photo, as well as magazines in Spain, West Germany and Argentina. He said at this rate, revenue from secondary rights could reach \$100,000 in a month.

Doctors reattach worker's hand

PITTSBURGH (AP) — A paper mill worker lost his hands in an industrial accident, but surgeons fashioned one hand for him by using parts from both mangled hands, the hospital said Saturday. Daniel Hershberger, 25, got his hands trapped Friday in machinery at the Appleton paper plant in Roaring Springs. He was taken to a nearby hospital, then flown by helicopter to Pittsburgh's Allegheny General Hospital. In an 18-hour operation, surgeons saved the palm and thumb on Hershberger's left hand and reattached them to his left wrist. They were unable to save any fingers on his left hand, but attached three fingers from his right hand to his left hand. If the surgery is successful, Hershberger will have functional left hand with a thumb and three fingers, doctors said. Hershberger was listed in critical condition Saturday, said hospital spokeswoman Robyn Beckwith.

Bolshoi Theatre closes for modernisation

MOSCOW (R) — Moscow's Bolshoi Theatre, after a final performance of *Bloody Wedding*, closed for extensive repairs which will make it more comfortable while preserving its 18th century features, TASS news agency reported. The theatre will close for three and a half months for redecorating and fire safety improvements, then reopen for celebrations marking the 70th anniversary of the October revolution before closing again for a further two years of repairs and modernisation. Bolshoi Opera stars will continue to appear on two other Moscow stages while their home theatre, founded in 1776, is closed. *Bloody Wedding*, by contemporary West German composer Wilhelm Forster, has been staged at the Bolshoi by the Rhine Opera Company.

Bribe-taking Soviet doctors sentenced

MOSCOW (R) — The chief doctor of a hospital in Yaroslavl, a city north east of Moscow, has been sentenced to 11 years in prison for taking bribes, embezzlement and stealing hospital sheets, the Soviet News Agency TASS has said. TASS said T. Lozinskaya had been found guilty of heading a group of doctors engaged in corruption at Yaroslavl's Hospital Number One. It said a number of her colleagues had been given jail terms of various length and others were sacked. TASS said the court heard that Lozinskaya had fiddled hospital documents in exchange for bribes, put her daughter and mother-in-law on the hospital payroll although they did not work there and accepted "gifts" from subordinates. It said she had stolen hospital linen, goods and equipment both for her personal use and to distribute to people whose protection she needed. TASS said Lozinskaya had cost the state 35,000 roubles (\$52,500). Her property was ordered confiscated as part of the sentence.

Soviets attack U.S. treatment of children

MOSCOW (R) — A Soviet newspaper marked International Children's Day by saying 4.5 million children in the United States suffered from malnutrition and nine million had no access to medical services. In a commentary ahead of the June 1 Children's Day, *Sciskaya Zhizn* said an army of 900,000 U.S. "small slaves" had to work up to 10 hours a day as farm-hands and dish-washers. "Misery seems an irrelevant word when applied to the wealthy United States," it said. "But in the citadel of the capitalist world, millions of children are in the same tragic plight as their peers in the poorest countries." The newspaper made no mention of conditions for children in the Soviet Union, where the infant mortality rate stands at 26 deaths per 1,000 live births compared to 14.1 per 1,000 in the United States, according to latest available figures.

Chinese governor jailed for adultery

PEKING (R) — A Chinese provincial governor, sacked from his job last year for adultery and corruption, has been jailed for two years on the same charges, the official New China News Agency has reported. Ni Xian, dismissed from his post as governor of the south east province Jiangxi last October, is one of the most senior Chinese Communist Party officials to be denounced and sentenced for corruption in recent years. The agency said a court sentenced Ni for "malpractices." The official media announced two days ago that Ni had been expelled from the Chinese Communist Party after having committed adultery with a married woman working as a provincial representative in Hong Kong. The People's Daily said Ni had also used his power to promote the woman and her relatives and to help her brother smuggle video recorders into China.

'Living Buddha' goes into business

PEKING (R) — One of Tibet's holiest Buddhist lamas has become the general manager of a trading company run by his son. He says he wants to keep up with the times. The *New China News Agency* reported that 48-year-old Garchi Qam'a, a living Buddha, presides over a business expected to have a turnover equivalent to \$1 million this year. "The fact that the temple runs an enterprise and a living Buddha works as the general manager doesn't run counter to Buddhist monastic discipline," he said. "On the contrary, to improve our economy and improve the living standards of lamas are things we pray for every day." The firm, owned by the Lhunpo Lamasery, near the town of Shigatse, operates a timber mill, a truck fleet and a tourist shop in Lhasa. It has signed contracts to supply companies abroad with wool and raw silk. The agency said the lama-entrepreneur, revered by Tibetans as the incarnation of a holy man, has not been seduced into putting on the suit and tie that usually go with business — he still wears lama robes and shaves his head. "I am busy as a bee," the agency quoted him as saying. "But I still manage to concentrate my efforts on Buddhist research."

Hong Kong punters set betting record

HONG KONG (R) — Hong Kong punters bet a record \$175 million dollars (\$75 million) on the final day of the 1988-89 horse-racing season. They laid out \$583,750,000, which was the final meeting at Sha Tin. This was more than \$3 million dollars (\$11.1 million) above the record set last year. The money brought in this season, to an estimated 25 billion dollars (\$1.1 billion) — roughly 4,400 dollars (\$550) for every man, woman and child in the 5.7 million population of the British colony. Last season's turnover was 21 billion dollars (\$1.1 billion).

Buddhist monks clash with Seoul police

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Some 500 Buddhist monks shouting "down with military dictatorship" fought riot police with fists Sunday during an anti-government demonstration, witnesses said.

One riot policeman was kicked and punched severely before being released by the monks at a Buddhist temple in eastern Seoul, the witnesses said.

There were no reports of arrests during the one-hour clash, in which the protesters did not use the usual weapons of student demonstrators, such as rocks and firebombs, the witnesses said.

About 600 riot police equipped with shields and helmets formed

human barricades, blocking the monks from coming out of the temple, the witnesses said. No tear gas was fired.

The monks were protesting what they called "an inexcusable" police attack to break up a peaceful service at a Buddhist temple in the southern city of Kwangju two weeks ago, the witnesses said.

The monks claimed that police fired tear gas directly into a monastery in Kwangju where several hundred people were holding a memorial service for the victims of the 1980 civil uprising and carrying out broad democratic reforms.

Fiji rejects Pacific forum offer to send mission to Suva

APIA, Western Samoa (R) — South Pacific countries have offered to send a mission to Fiji but were vague over how this could aid recovery from the political and economic effects of a military coup and the offer was rejected by the island nation.

The 15-nation South Pacific Forum said in a communiqué the mission would visit Suva only if invited by Governor-General Ratu Sir Penia Ganilau and word reached Apia quickly that Ganilau had rejected the proposal.

Such a visit would "not be practical" an official spokesman said.

There was no immediate reaction from forum leaders, who spent several hours Saturday hammering out references to Fiji in the communiqué after their conference here.

The forum had nominated a three man group — Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke, Solomon Islands Prime Minister Ezekiel Alehu and Henry Naisali, director of the Forum Secretariat — to visit Fiji, where the elected government of Timoci Bavadra was ousted by the military on May 14.

Mr. Hawke told reporters the mission hoped to meet all parties "with view to attempting to facilitate processes leading to a resolution of current problems."

He said "there is a common view that it's in the interests of

everyone in Fiji ... that the emphasis not now be on the past but how together we can ensure an acceptable and peaceful future for Fiji....

The forum does not have some formula. What we do have is a common desire to assist if they (Fiji) want us in finding an acceptable outcome."

New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange, at first a severe critic of the Fijian military but now taking a softer line, said the mission's aim was to sound out all factions in order to help Ganilau reconstruct the country.

"What's going to come out of it? Let's wait and see," he said, adding that there was nothing to negotiate.

Mr. Lange said there had been no expressions of support for Bavadra at the forum "nor was it anticipated there would be."

Mr. Lange added that the composition of the mission was well calculated. Mr. Hawke was a skilful negotiator, Alehu was a Melanesian who appreciated the strivings of indigenous peoples, and Naisali was a resident of Suva.

Mr. Hawke, who has called elections in Australia for July 11, was said by conference sources to have played a leading role in discussions on Fiji.

Mr. Lange said Fiji had dominated the conference although most discussions had been at informal sessions.

Opponents of Aquino demand return of Marcos

MANILA (R) — Rightwing foes of Philippine President Corazon Aquino Sunday rejected her call for reconciliation, accused her of election fraud and urged the return of deposed ruler Ferdinand Marcos.

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Chinese battle new forest fires

PEKING (R) — Fire-fighters are battling new flare-ups in the monster blaze which has consumed a large part of the forests in north-eastern China, the official New China News Agency said Sunday.

The agency said new fires spotted in the Inner Mongolia region three days ago were "advancing fiercely southward" and had so far burnt 100 square kilometres of forest.

It said a large forest fire which has been burning in the Baikal area of Soviet Siberia for the past month was still threatening to leap the border river into Inner Mongolia where vast tracts of virgin forests are at risk.

Thick clouds of black smoke are drifting across the Ergun River from the Soviet Union and the agency quoted a Forestry Ministry statement as saying:

"If fresh gale wind occurs, the Soviet fire can possibly come into Inner Mongolia."

Forest fires in the adjacent province of Heilongjiang have killed about 200 people and destroyed 50,000 homes since they began on May 6. It is the worst forest fire since the Communist state was founded in 1949.

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